Docket No.: 57454-248

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IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE BEFORE THE BOARD OF PATENT APPEALS AND INTERFERENCES

In re Application of

Customer Number: 20277

Shuji NAKAO, et al.

Confirmation Number: 4719

Serial No.: 09/986,084

Group Art Unit: 1756

Filed: November 07, 2001

Examiner: C. Young

For: FOCUS MONITORING METHOD, FOCUS MONITORING APPARATUS, AND

METHOD OF MAUFACTURING SEMICONDUCTOR DEVICE

NOTICE OF APPEAL FROM THE PRIMARY EXAMINER TO THE BOARD OF APPEALS

Mail Stop AF Commissioner for Patents P.O. Box 1450 Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir:

Applicants hereby appeal to the Board of Appeals from the decision dated September 29,

2003 of the Primary Examiner finally rejecting claims 1-9.

Appeal Fee: \$\frac{330.00}{\text{ Not required (fee paid in prior appeal in this application).}}

Charge to Deposit Account No. 500417.

Check Enclosed.

Respectfully submitted,

12/24/2003 MGEBREM1 00000058 500417 09986084

MCDERMOTT, WILL & EMERY

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Date: December 23, 2003